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Fortin Appointed New Dean of the Seminary

Andrews University recently appointed Denis Fortin the new dean of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. Fortin replaces John McVay, who left Andrews this summer to become president of Walla Walla College. Fortin, professor of theology and chair of the Department of Theology and Christian Philosophy, has been a member of the Seminary faculty since 1994.

Fortin previously served as the Seminary’s associate dean for four years, from 2000–2004. He was also the director of the master of divinity program from 1999–2001.

A native of Quebec, Canada, Fortin received his bachelor’s degree in pre-ministry from Canadian University College (formerly Candian Union College), College Heights, Alberta, in 1982. He went on to receive a master of divinity degree from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews in 1986 and a doctorate in theology from the Université Laval, Quebec, Canada, in 1995.

Before coming to Andrews, Fortin served as a pastor in Quebec. He has authored several publications on Adventist history and theology, including his 2004 Adventism in Quebec: The Dynamics of Rural Church Growth, 1830–1910. He is co-editor of the Ellen G. White Encyclopedia, a forthcoming publication by the Review and Herald Publishing Association.

“The Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary is one of the most dynamic and diverse seminaries in the United States and Canada,” Fortin stated. “With an enrollment of [more than] 800 students hailing from dozens of nations, a well-qualified faculty, and the diversity of programs offered, it is the leading seminary in our denomination. It is a privilege to serve this institution and to facilitate the theological and ministerial education of the next generation of pastors for the Adventist church.”

Fortin and his wife Kristine Knutson, coordinator of advising services in the university’s Student Success Center, live in Berrien Springs, Mich. They have two daughters and a son.

Mattingly Appointed New Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences

The Andrews University Board of Trustees appointed Keith Mattingly the new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) on their annual October meeting. The CAS is the university’s largest school with 18 departments. Mattingly is replacing William Richardson, who retired this past summer.

Mattingly has been a member of the Andrews faculty since 1984, serving as chair of the Department of Religion and Biblical Languages since 1998.

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, Mattingly holds three Andrews degrees: a bachelor’s in business and religion (1969), a master’s of divinity from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary (1972), and a Ph.D. in biblical studies (1997).

Before coming to Andrews, Mattingly served as a pastor in Arkansas and Louisiana from 1971–1977 and in Florida from 1977–1979. He also served as a chaplain in the U.S. Army Reserve for 28 years (1971–1999). Ranking as a lieutenant colonel at his retirement, he served tours of duty both in Germany and the Persian Gulf War.

Mattingly is a member of the Society of Biblical Studies, Theta Alpha Kappa, the Adventist Society of Religious Studies, and the Schools of American Oriental Research.

“I come into my position with three goals for the College of Arts and Sciences,” Mattingly states. “First, to promote excellence in two areas—each academic discipline taught and being a Seventh-day Adventist; second, to be the provider/protector for faculty, staff, and students; and finally, to ensure adequate physical space, with the first emphasis being a replacement for Griggs Hall.” Griggs Hall, the oldest academic building on campus, is the current home to the departments of religion and international languages.

Mattingly’s wife, Margarita, is chair of Andrews’ physics department. They have a son, Sean, and a daughter, Claudine.